

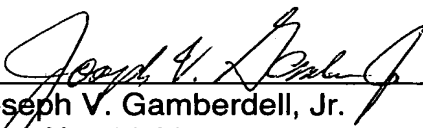
#### IV. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-12 remain in the application.
2. The specification has been amended to include a priority claim.
3. The claims have been amended to eliminate reference numbers and multiple dependencies.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims present in the application are clearly novel and patentable, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **50-1078** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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13 December 2004  
Date

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